

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 SOE-02 DODE-00
SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 AID-05 COME-00 EPA-04 NSF-02
PM-05 ICA-20 INT-05 PA-02 /144 W
-----051546 031235Z /53

R 021909Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8201
INFO DOE WASHDC
DOE GERMANTOWN
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
ALL EC CAPITALS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 15036

USEEC

VIENNA FOR USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, EEC
SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTALIST REACTION TO EC COMMISSION REPORT
- ON THE PUBLIC DEBATES ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

REF: BRUSSELS 8157

1. IN APRIL 1978, THE EC COMMISSION REPORTED THE CONCLUSIONS IT DREW FROM THE NOVEMBER 1977 AND JANUARY 1978 PUBLIC DEBATES ON NUCLEAR ENERGY (REFTEL).
2. THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU (EEB) WHICH REPRESENTS FORTY PRIVATE CONSUMER-ORIENTED ORGANIZATIONS IN VARIOUS EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAS JUST PUBLISHED A RESPONSE TO THE EC COMMISSION'S REPORT. A SUMMATION OF THE EEB'S COMMENTS FOLLOWS:
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THE BUREAU WELCOMED THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS IN RADIATION PROTECTION, SAFETY, AND NEW SOURCES OF ENERGY. IT ALSO APPROVED OF THE EC'S CONTINUING SUPPORT OF PHYSICAL PROTECTION IN THE NUCLEAR AREA. HOWEVER, THE BUREAU TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE COMMISSION'S CONCLUSION THAT "THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FROM FISSION APPEARS TO BE AN INESCAPABLE

NECESSITY."

THE EEB ALSO DISAGREED WITH THE COMMISSION'S VIEW THAT "REPROCESSING IS ESSENTIAL TO THE MANAGEMENT OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE." IT SUGGESTS THAT THE COMMISSION STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF UTILIZING "ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO FINAL STORAGE WHICH DO NOT INVOLVE REPROCESSING."

3. SUMMING UP, WHILE THE EEB "COMPLIMENTED" THE EC COMMISSION'S WILLINGNESS TO PERMIT CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE FORMULATION OF ENERGY POLICY, THE DEBATES AND ENSUING EC COMMISSION REPORT DID NOT SEEM TO REMOVE THE CONCERNS NORMALLY EXPRESSED BY CONSUMER-ORIENTED ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE EEB WHEN DISCUSSING THE NUCLEAR ENERGY OPTION. HINTON

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